

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 04963 251323Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /023 W
-----112931 251328Z /47

P R 242158Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8191

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 4963

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BDIS, ETRD, CO
SUBJECT: TRADE COMPLAINTS: TRADE COMPLAINT AGAINST WINCHESTER-OLIN
BY GOC AMMUNITION FACTORY

1. DIRECTOR OF GOC AMMUNITION FACTORY (INDUSTRIA MILITAR), RETIRED
GENERAL CAMACHO LEYVA, VISITED COMMERCIAL ATTACHE TO REQUEST A
ASSISTANCE IN RECEIVING CONTRACTED SHIPMENTS OF RAW MATERIALS
AND COMPONENTS FROM WINCHESTER INTERNATIONAL, 275 WINCHESTER
AVENUE, NEW HAVEN, CONN 06504. ACCORDING DIRECTOR, WHO IS RETIRED
ARMY GENERAL AND BROTHER OF CURRENT GOC MILITARY FORCES COMMANDER
WINCHESTER HAS DELAYED SHIPMENTS OF FOLLOWING ARTICLES:
1 MILLION 38 CALIBRE SHELL CASINGS
2.1 MILLION 38 CALIBRE NICKELIZED SHELL CASINGS
7.1 MILLION DETONATOR CAPS FOR 7.62 CALIBER BULLETS
1,600 KILOGRAMS OF TAR PAPER FOR WADDING

2. DELAY IN SHIPMENT OF ABOVE IS CAUSING SERIOUS WORK STOPPAGES
IN 300-MAN PLANT AND MINISTRY OF DEFENSE THREATENING TO IMPOSE
PENALTY CLAUSES ON INDUSTRIA MILITAR FOR LATE SUPPLY OF FINISHED
AMMUNITION. INDUSTRIA MILITAR ALSO THREATENED WITH LOSS OF
FUTURE CONTRACTS ACCORDING DIRECTOR. IN ADDITION, MATERIALS MUST
BE SHIPPED BY JUNE 14 OR GOC IMPORT LICENSE WILL EXPIRE AND
RENEWAL WILL CAUSE ADDITIONAL DELAYS. DIRECTOR STATES THAT SOC.
ROZOS LTDA OF BOGOTA (WINCHESTER-OLIN REP IN BOGOTA) RE-
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CEIVED INFORMATION FROM WINCHESTER LATIN AMERICAN SALES DIRECTOR
RAMIREZ THAT 750,000 CAPS WERE TO BE SHIPPED ON "RIO MAGDALENA"
ON MAY 10. HOWEVER, CAPS APPARENTLY NEVER LOADED ONSHIP.

3. CAMACHO REPORTS THAT INDUSTRIA MILITAR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS
WITH WINCHESTER HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY GOOD FOR LAST TEN YEARS. THIS
IS FIRST INSTANCE OF DELAY AND HE BELIEVES RAMIREZ MAY BE AT

FAULT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT USDOC CHECK ASAP WITH WINCHESTER TO DETERMINE EXACT SITUATION WITH REGARD THESE SHIPMENTS IN ORDER COMMERCIAL ATTACHE CAN RESPOND TO INDUSTRIA MILITAR. USDOC MAY WISH CONSULT PERSON OTHER THAN RAMIREZ.
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